

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 620
By Scroggs

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Fred Richardson Travis
of Nashville.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of
this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Fred Richardson
Travis; and

WHEREAS, Fred, a native of Murfreesboro and popular journalist, was a distinguished
citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, community, and
family; and

WHEREAS, he started his illustrious journalistic career at age 18, working for the *Daily
News Journal*; and

WHEREAS, he later worked for the *Rutherford Courier*, where he became a full-time
editor in 1938. Then he moved to Chattanooga to work for the *Times*; he later moved to
Nashville and served admirably as the bureau chief for the *Times* for 34 years until his
retirement; and

WHEREAS, Fred had also been the owner and operator of Newstenn, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, he served as the respected and admired dean of the Capitol Hill Press
Corps until his retirement in late 1995; and

WHEREAS, Fred was one of the founders of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of Sigma
Delta Chi, now the Society for Professional Journalists, was twice the president of the Tower

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class of Calvary United Methodist Church, and has served in the Tennessee Army National Guard, retiring in 1977 with the rank of lieutenant colonel; and

WHEREAS, a man of tremendous knowledge concerning Tennessee governmental affairs, he was known as a walking encyclopedia of Tennessee political history; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Fred leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by journalists, friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of 51 years, Bernice Travis, and was the proud parent of Richard and Teresa; and grandparent of one grandson; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, SENATE CONCURRENCE, That we honor the memory of a consummate journalist, Fred Richardson Travis, remembering with admiration his exemplary character, high professional standards and many selfless contributions to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Fred Richardson Travis.